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TOP SECRET

TICOM/I - 111

Further Interrogation of Oberstlt. METTIG
OF OKW/Chi on 14th September, 1945.

Attached is a report on the interrogation of
METTIG at CSDIG (UK) on 14th September, 1945, carried out
by Cdr. DUDLEY-SMITH, Lt. Cdr. MANSON, Major SEAMAN and
Captains GINSBURG and CAMPBELL.

TICOM/I - 17,86,96 refer.

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METIG

- Q. What do you consider was the most outstanding cryptanalytic achievement of (a) In 7/VI and (b) OKW/Chi ?
- A. For In 7/VI, the breaking of the Russian 5-figure recyphered code, and also the reading of the Polish LONDON - WARSAW traffic by Referat VAUCK.
- Q. To whom is the credit for these successes mainly due ?
- A. The Russian 5-figure was broken chiefly by DETTMAN
[Note: P/W could recall the name only when prompted/
It was also worked on by KVRat HARRIS and, for a short time, by NOVOPASHNY.
P/W did not know who was responsible for the initial success on the Polish traffic: it was worked on latterly by BERNDT of Chi/V.
- Q. And the greatest achievement of OKW/Chi ?
- A. [P/W's answer was confused and quite unsatisfactory: be quoted Turkish diplomatic traffics PARIS/ANKARA, MOSCOW/ANKARA, and an American traffic between WASHINGTON and N. AFRICA; this latter he thought was in M 209, was military but yet not military, rather military, attaché only it was not sent by a military attaché]
- Q. And that of the other cipher bureaus ?
- A. No knowledge of the Forschungsamt: the Auswaertigesamt were latterly most successful with Turkish.
- Q. Luftwaffe ?
- A. Can't say.
- Q. Navy ?
- A. MORGENROTH can best answer that.
- Q. Was OKW/Chi interested in Japanese ciphers and were they worked on ?
- A. They had some photostat copies of Japanese ciphers, but P/W does not know of any cryptanalytic success with them and does not think anything of any intelligence was obtained.
[P/W was asked to consider the matter and to write a somewhat fuller account of the major German cryptanalytic achievements]
- Q. P/W was then asked if he knew Insp. HELLER of In 7/VI. What was his Christian name? Could he give a description of him ?
- A. Did not know him at all well : can give no details.
- Q. How old is he ?
- A. Perhaps about 30.

- Q. What do you know of work on the interception of British and American Wireless Teleprinter and Automatic Morse traffic ?
- A. It was worked on by Pruef 7 in STANTS. I know of no success achieved.
- Q. Who worked on it ?
- A. Baurat KERKHOFF. Possibly also Dr. LEBKUECHT and SCHELLHORST.
- Q. What was KERKHOFF's Christian name and where did he live ?
- A. It may have been HEINRICH: he lived somewhere beyond (?) Simenstrasse in BERLIN.
- Q. Were these systems worked on cryptanalytically or not ?
- A. The stuff went to Gen.d NA. Beyond that I know nothing.
- Q. Did OKW work on the Interdepartmental cipher or did it act merely as a clearing-house.
- A. It was not worked on at OKW.
- Q. What arrangements existed for pooling intercept material ?
- A. Departments concerned worked directly among themselves with a certain amount of liaison: there was no control from above.
- Q. Was traffic passed by OKW to the Forschungsamt, for example ?
- A. I do not know.
- Q. To OB d L ?
- A. There was close collaboration.
- Q. Was all traffic passed or only a selection ?
- A. Normally all traffic when a system was still unsolved.
Note: P/W here referred particularly to an R.A.F. cipher/
- Q. Can you describe ORR Rotter of Chi V ?
- A. He is Austrian, and speaks Austrian dialect; 35 - 40 years old; dark hair ; 1.70 m. tall ; wears spectacles; slim. Lived in BERLIN.
- Q. What was the size of his staff ?
- A. 15 - 20 roughly.
- Q. Their activities ?

- A. They worked on English systems but I do not know any details. They worked very closely with the American section. So far as I know they did not work on any machine.
- Q. Were the people mathematicians or linguists ?
- A. They were about 80% linguists and 20% mathematicians. ROTTER himself was a linguist.
- Q. What do you know of German Sigint in the Far East ?
- A. There was a station at NANKING under KO CHINA. [P/W said all his information on this subject came from Oberst. SCHUBERT]
- Q. When was the link with HALLIMAA started ?
- A. I think at the beginning of the second Russo-Finnish war.
- Q. What cipher was used for this channel ?
- A. Enigma with special wheel-wirings.
- Q. Whereabouts in FINLAND was the other end of the link ?
- A. At Finnish G.H.Q.: Where that was exactly, I do not know. Maj. MARQUARDT of Gen. d NA was there as liaison Officer.
- Q. Was the link used for passing raw material, cipher recoveries, etc ?
- A. Not for raw material but only for short messages of cryptanalytic content ((Hinweise)).
- Q. What is your opinion of the Finns as cryptanalysts ?
- A. They were very good. There was a Finnish Liaison Officer to Gen. d NA with a name something like NIECK-OYA. They worked on the same systems as the Germans and sent Russian 5-figure material to them. FENNER would know the details.
- Q. Was there any liaison with the Spanish Sigint Service ?
- A. About a year ago we were passing to the Spaniards French traffic from N.AFRICA and military traffic in general from N. AFRICA. We received from them 'Kabelgramme' about ship-movements, probably originating from commercial attachés.
- Q. Do you know any names ?
- A. Lt. Col. SAMIENTO was formerly head of their intercept organisation; later he became chief signals officer. Lt. Col. CORTI or CORTY was their cryptanalytic expert.
- Q. Their ability ?
- A. They knew nothing.

- Q. How long was Oberinsp. ZILLMANN head of the English Referat of In 7/VI ?
- A. He was so all the time I was there, i.e. from the end of '41 till the middle of '43; I do not know how long he was there altogether.
- Q. Can you describe him ?
- A. He was 35 - 40, 1.75 m. tall, with dark-brown hair, rather curly. I do not know his Christian name.
- Q. His ability ?
- A. He had come from the ranks and had limitations. He was not a mathematician - a practical man, rather.
- Q. When did you last hear of him ?
- A. I last saw him at JÜTERBOG, abt. October 1944. I am not sure whether he was still in the same job then.
- Q. When was the B 211 first broken ?
- A. After the 1940 French campaign. It was a purely analytic solution, at In 7/VI, by PIETSCH, KUEHN, DOERING.
- Q. When did it cease to be exploited, and why ?
- A. I do not know.
- Q. Who ran the T/P interception at PARIS and what happened to them ?
- A. I was told about it by Maj. KEMPE, but know no details. It was presumably done by the French.
- Q. Can you explain further what you meant by saying ODEN of the F/A was an expert on cables ?
- A. He was simply an expert on the F/A's own telecommunications.
- Q. What was the size of Referat VAUCK ?
- A. There were about 20 people in JÜTERBOG, 10 at outstations, and 8 Polish specialists with OKW.
- Q. Who directed the policy of agent V/T interception ?
- A. Fu III.
- Q. How was the work shared between BERLIN and the outstations ?
- A. Recognised traffic was done on the spot, unknown material went to BERLIN.
- Q. How was the traffic sorted, and where ?

- A. The traffic was first sorted locally, but all traffic came to BERLIN in duplicate as well.
- Q. What were the special methods of approach you mentioned.
- A. Captured documents and traffic analysis.
- Q. What types of cipher were broken ?
- A. Mostly 'Caesaren' based on book-texts.
- Q. How did the Germans get details of the pick-up operations ?
- A. From deciphered texts or captured documents.
- Q. Was German policy about their own agents' ciphers modified according to the findings of Referat VAUCK ?
- A. This happened latterly. From the summer of '44 onwards there was liaison with Regt. BRANDENBURG zbV 800. MENZER too was concerned in this, though he worked little with VAUCK.